

**ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**  
***Minutes – April 1, 2015***

The Ulster County Planning Board Meeting  
**7:30 p.m.** – Surrogate Courtroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
County Office Building

**The Executive Committee Met at 6:30PM**

Chairman Baden called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Leibowitz to read the roll call.

1. **ROLL CALL – Present:** R. Pecora, D. Whitaker, J. Konior, P. Brooks, K. Lovelett, C. Lanzetta, M. Calimano, D. Boggess, T. Wilkin, M. Baden, J. Brown, P. Andreassen, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, F. Almquist, V. Markowitz, M. Rudikoff, M. Weitman, G. Swanzey, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz, B. Samuelson **Absent:** R. Sokolov **Excused:** M. Vaia, H. Baker, E. Cafaro, R. Kinnin **Guests:** Charles Bazydco

Chairman Baden and the Board welcomed Cindy Lanzetta who is the new alternate for the Town of Marlborough. Chairman Baden circulated a list for members to update contact information. He also stated that he had blank mileage forms if anyone needed them and noted that mileage reimbursements should be turned in quarterly.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The March minutes were approved. Motion made by Ms. Pecora, seconded by Mr. Konior. Mr. Brown, Mr. Watkins and Ms. Lanzetta abstained.

3. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Doyle stated that things are well. We have a couple transportation studies coming to an end – the Intermodal Center study in New Paltz and the Wayfinding study in Rosendale, we are three quarters of the way through the Broadway Kingston Circulation study and about one third of the way through a Long Range Transportation Plan update. Mr. Doyle stated that we should be starting a countywide bridge study and a Human Services Coordination plan sometime this summer. We also have a couple other small studies running through the department. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that our transportation funding was approved by the Federal government last week and is waiting on the State budget to pass. We have two projects being carried in the Capital Project budget: 1. building a Kingston to Hurley trail, and 2. construction of a trail from Old New Paltz Rd in the town of Lloyd to South St. Mr. Doyle stated that we also have two studies in the Capital Improvement Program that will begin this year: 1. Brownfield grant and 2. Watershed Management plan for the lower Esopus. We will be entering into preparation of 2016 budget in a couple months.

Mr. Doyle stated that we are involved in Open Space protection work and have draft criteria ready for consideration by the County Executive. He added that the department is also involved in shovel ready work. The UC Legislature, as part of the adoption of its capital program, has \$1million slated for shovel ready projects – up to \$500,000 for each project. Projects must meet requirements of home rule legislation: i.e. - must be industrial projects. Mr. Doyle stated we are trying to make this an application process rather than an approval process through the shovel ready committee. There is a shovel ready report on our website describing the program and some of the projects funded in the past.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment

5. **COMMUNITY REPORT**

Shandaken: Mr. Holmquist informed the board that he saw the newspaper article about the UCPB required modification comments on the Belleayre project and his local board's reaction. Ulster: Mr. Almquist asked if staff had seen anything on the new Park and Ride. Mr. Doyle stated that is one of the projects funded by the Transportation Council. He added that the Council was going to send

KEY: (f) = handout will be in folder at meeting  
(m) = handout included in the mailing

out a press release on the funding, but didn't at the request of NYSDOT. Mr. Doyle stated that we have reviewed the plans with NYSDOT and the town.

Lloyd: Mr. Brooks stated there was no truth to the Zumtobel closing rumor and he thanked Mr. Doyle for looking into it. Town of New Paltz: Mr. Calimano stated that the judge ruled that the planning board was obligated under SEQR to determine fiscal impact for Park Point dormitory project. The judge supported the planning board's decision and denied the project. Town of Saugerties: Mr. Andreassen asked if UC Safe Routes To School has added Saugerties. Mr. Doyle stated that we have extended our SRTS contract with Alta Planning and that work should begin soon. Plattekill: Mr. Wilkin brought up the training on the Wallkill River being held at SUNY New Paltz. He felt it was good for members in the watershed to know more about this. Mr. Doyle added that CRREO at SUNY New Paltz has done research on the Wallkill and is sponsoring this discussion to decide if there is a course of action.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Doyle stated the communications were included with the agenda. No member comment.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Agriculture Update

Mr. Samuelson informed the board that there are three agricultural planning items to update:

- Ag District 4 Review - Mr. Samuelson stated the department, working with Cornell reviewed additions/deletions for the district and presented them to the Agricultural Farmland Protection Board (AFPB). The AFPB recommendations were to remove 14 parcels that were subdivided since the last district review. The Legislature submitted the district to the Commissioner as recommended by the AFPB.
- Ag District 2 Review - is in middle of review. Mr. Samuelson stated that Ag District 2 – Wallkill River Valley – includes the southern part of Rosendale, Esopus, New Paltz, Gardiner, Shawangunk and the western part of Plattekill. He added that he and Mr. Doyle drafted a Resolution that calls for the removal of 40 parcels (138 acres). He added they were originally recommending the removal of more parcels, but that farmer, when contacted, requested that already subdivided parcels remain in.
- 2015 Ag District Inclusions – Mr. Samuelson stated this was a total of 18 parcels (784 acres) in the Towns of Olive, Marbletown, Esopus, New Paltz, Plattekill, Rochester and Rosendale. He noted that the Woodstock Animal Sanctuary has bought property in Rochester and Marbletown. Mr. Samuelson said he would report back to the Board on the recommendations of the AFPB.

Mr. Brooks asked about quasi agricultural uses with weddings/events in the middle of a corn field and asked have we seen any of these? Mr. Samuelson stated the applicants don't apply saying they will be doing those types of events, they are usually added later. Mr. Doyle stated farmers are allowed agricultural related uses, but not agriculture, if the events showcase their farm products. Some AFPB members are reluctant to accept these into farming, while others are on the side of the farmer. Mr. Doyle stated that Ag & Markets are on the side of both farmer and municipality. He gave the example of the winery in New Paltz trying to join the ag district several years ago.

Mr. Samuelson mentioned the referral for yurts on the farm in Marbletown – gives people a chance to experience farming. Mr. Wilkin stated board members need to know enough about agriculture to ask the right questions. Mr. Doyle stated ag markets law protects agriculture. Mr. Doyle informed the board that there was a farm that had been subdivided – lots are divided, deeds have been filed, but no improvements yet. We recommended to remove the property from district because it appeared to become a residential use. The farmer says that due to the economic downturn he had no intention to remove the property for next 8 years and was still farming all of the land. He now has a filed subdivision an ag exception – all legal.

b. Board Membership Update

Mr. Doyle stated that we are waiting for action from Town of Shawangunk for reappointment of Mr. Watkins. We have an appointment of Cindy Lanzetta from the Town of Marlborough. Town of Marbletown paperwork is up to the Legislature for their approval of Mr. Lovelett. No word from Hardenburgh or the Village of Saugerties. Mr. Doyle added that he continues to reach out to City of Kingston for a new member to replace Mr. Kinnin. Mr. Baden added that we have 11 vacancies for alternates and members who don't have an alternate should speak with their communities about getting one.

c. 2014 Annual Report (f) – Included in the packet

Mr. Doyle stated that if anyone has any questions, please let him know. The report was filed with the Legislature on behalf of the department and the board. The Executive Committee reviewed the report before it was filed.

**8. SPECIAL TOPICS DISCUSSION**

No Comment

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Environmental Notice Bulletin & Grant Opportunities– *No Member Comment*

Mr. Doyle informed the board that the CFA funding round is coming up this spring. There is a competition in the five upstate New York regions for \$500 million dollars each, for three of them. No region would get less than \$90 million. He stated now is the time to look at the business needs of the community, anything that creates jobs. Mr. Doyle stated members should get the word out to their municipalities. Now is the time to engage the town boards and CACs.

**10. ZONING REFERRALS – *See Separate Zoning Minutes***

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting adjourned at 9:30pm**